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FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1905.

### SENATOR THOMAS AND THE PRI MARY.

The timely warning of State Sena tor Thomas in regard to the approaching primary is causing a good deal of discussion. He declares that he will go into the primary in good faith and will abide by the result unless it can be shown that political thieves have stolen the nominations. The Peters burg Index-Appeal thinks this is the rock upon which the primary will split

What Senator Thomas threatens to do others may do," says the Index-

there has been an undue amount of pald newspaper publications. This was not so objectionable as long as it was confined to giving friendly pictures of the virtues of a candidate but it has not stopped at that. In some of the word propers in the State, even in one standing so high as the Lynchburg News, there have been articles in the news columns attacking the motives and conduct of this or that candidate. These articles are paid advertisements, and, of course, must be vertisements, and, of course, must be paid for by persons who are interested in the election of some other candi date. A noteworthy feature is that the most slanderous of these publications have appeared in the closing days of he campaign, the hope being apparently to prevent the slanders from being corrected until the primary is

Rev. Mr. Cannon has been especially severe in his denunciation of "secular papers" for making unfounded charges We therefore assume that he has absolute proof of the serious accusation made against some of the Virginia newspapers, to the effect that their iews columns are for sale and that they are not above allowing them to be used for "slanderous publications." We shall await with interest the replies which will undoubtedly be forthcoming to Rev. Mr. Cannon's stric-We certainly believe that he will be given an opportunity to prove his statements. In any event he ought to be given that opportunity.

The Washington Post observes that "the Japanese peace dove has a long bill." It might also be observed that the older the dove gets the longer the bill will grow.

"Where to Look for Mosquitoes is the title of a long article in a New Orleans paper. Wouldn't it be more philosophic to place the burden of earch upon the mosquito?

We trust that Mr. Fisher will sue eeed in catching the real significance of those customs house coincidences of the past week or two.

A Massachusetts woman declared that she thinks Queen Helena of Italy is the most beautiful woman in the world today. This woman ought to tall take a trip South and then revise her full rash and unadvised opinion

## ALL GREAT READERS.

## A PARROT RANCH.

American Owns It and It's Located in Mexico.

Martin Holts, an American, who established a parrot ranch near Victoria, Mexico, a few years ago, has met with wonderful success and has accumulated a fortune in the business. It is probably the only parrot ranch in the world, it is certainly the only one in Mexico, says the San Francisco Call.

Call.

Holts was employed for several years as a passenger conductor on the old Montercy and Mexican Gulf rail-road, now a part of the Mexican Gentral system. His division was between Victoria and the port of Tampico, on the gulf coast, through the heart of the parrot country. He was always interested in the bright-colored birds and while running as conductor he collected many of them and taught them to speak English. There were many tourists traveling up and down his line, and he did a good side business by selling the birds to Americans and others.

The thought then occurred to Holts that he might make more money by retiring from railread work and devoting his time to raising parrots. He followed this plan and purchased a large tract of forest land near Victoria which was teeming with wild parrots. He fitted up the ranch in a unique way. Wire netting was placed around and over the trees and the birds.

It is in teaching the parrots to talk that Holts has made a unique success. He is a lineuist, speaking English, Spanish, French and German fluently. He divided his stock of several thousand birds into four classes—one for each language. He then took a few birds from each class and set Holts was employed for

eral thousand birds into four classes— one for each language. He then took a few birds from each class and set to work to teach them to talk. At the end of a few months Holts had laught a number of birds English, Spanish, German and French, and the educated birds were placed in their respective sections. It was Holts' theory that by doing this the educated hirds would fouch their communious to

respective sections. It was from theory that by doing this the educated birds would teach their companions to tal. His hopes were realized to the fullest extent. He says that at the end of the first year he had several hundred educated pairots.

Tolis believes that the standard of intelligence of pairots can be greatly increased by proper attention to breeding them. In his collection of pairots, which now number several thousands, he saw several which are seemingly possessed of reasoning powers. These educated birds have been taught to carry on a conversation with each other. This conversation with each other. This conversation, in which each bird knows his part thoroughty, covers nearly thirty minutes of time.

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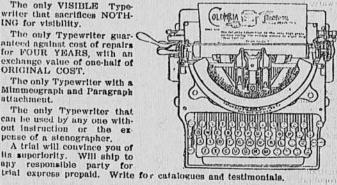
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